



TEXAS VETERANS COMMISSION

Contact Information

Lisa Waddell
1700 N. Congress, Suite 800
Austin, Texas 78711-2277
512-936-1910 / Fax 512-475-2395
lisa.waddell@tvc.state.tx.us

News Release

For Immediate Release: February 15, 2011

Release No. 20110215-01

Those Serving Veterans Receive \$2 Million in Grants

AUSTIN – Today the Texas Veterans Commission announced the recipients of over two million dollars in grants from the Texas Veterans Commission Fund for Veterans' Assistance.

The grantees provide assistance to veterans and their families including recently separated Veterans. Services funded include transportation to medical facilities, counseling for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), housing assistance for homeless veterans, and family and child services.

"We help over 150,000 Texas veterans a year get jobs, disability compensation and educational benefits," says Thomas Palladino, Executive Director of the Texas Veterans Commission. "These grants are a way to provide even more assistance to the brave patriots who served our country."

The Texas lottery scratch-off game, *Veterans Cash*, is the primary source of funds for the Texas Veterans Commission Fund for Veterans' Assistance. Since its introduction on November 11, 2009, sales of *Veterans Cash* scratch-off tickets have provided over \$9.9 million to the Texas Veterans Commission Fund for Veterans' Assistance. The Fund also accepts tax deductible, private donations.

Eight Texas organizations received a total of \$2,064,840 in grant funds that will provide assistance to 4,968 veterans and their families. Anyone who would like to use any of these services should contact one of the following service providers directly.

Santa Maria Hostel, Inc. - \$322,302

Harris, Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Waller, Walker and Wharton counties.

Santa Maria Hostel will offer 24 homeless female veterans transitional housing and supportive services based on individualized needs. Funding will assist with educational and vocational services, life skills training, parenting classes, transportation assistance, and mental health services. *Contact:* Appointments (713) 691-0900, Administration (281) 657-0898

Hill Country Community MHMR Center - \$164,213

Bandera, Blanco, Comal, Edwards, Gillespie, Hays, Kendall, Kerr, Kimble, Kinney, Llano, Mason, Medina, Menard, Real, Schleicher, Sutton, Uvalde and Val Verde counties.

Hill Country Community MHMR will offer Cognitive Processing Therapy for Veterans dealing with PTSD. This therapy will be offered at ten mental health centers operated by Hill Country and provided by licensed social workers or counselors trained in Cognitive Processing Therapy. Therapy sessions will take place in a face to face setting whenever possible supplemented by telemedicine services if a trained therapist is not available at a local clinic. *Contact:* (830) 792-3300, info@hillcountry.org

Texas Legal Services Center - \$95,000

Statewide

Texas Legal Services Center (TLSC) will expand its existing legal hotline programs to provide high quality legal assistance to Texas veterans who do not have access to civil legal services. Legal services provided will address issues relating to family, employment, housing, consumer, probate, and access to health care and benefits.

Contact: Administrative Office (512) 477-6000

Scott & White Healthcare: Military Homefront Services - \$654,574

Statewide

Targeted to all service members who are serving or have served in Iraq and/or Afghanistan and their families, S & W Military Homefront Services will provide mental health counseling for service members and their families, as well as marriage counseling and rejuvenation workshops. *Contact:* (254) 680-1139

Lubbock Regional MHMR Center - \$300,000

Cochran, Crosby, Hockley Lubbock and Lynn counties

Funding will provide emergency financial assistance to veterans and their families, employment training, education and job placement assistance, and housing assistance for homeless veterans. *Contact:* (806) 766-0310

San Antonio Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse - \$171,126

Bandera, Bexar, Gillespie, Guadalupe, Kerr, Kinney, Medina, Real and Wilson counties

Grant funding will enhance services to veterans and their dependents by utilizing prevention and intervention strategies to address substance abuse, addiction, and mental health related issues. In addition, outreach and screening services will be provided to veterans and their dependents by collaborating with community partners. Funds will also provide training on substance abuse to professionals and agencies that provide services to veterans and their dependents. *Contact:* (210) 225-4741 or (210) 354-3331, info@sacada.org

Center for Life Resources (MHMR) - \$247,625

Brown, Comanche, Coleman, Eastland, McCulloch, Mills and San Saba counties

Services to be provided by Center for Life Resources include provisions of emergency financial assistance, counseling, supported employment services, housing assistance and legal services. *Contact:* (325) 646-9574, (866) 558-4357

Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Greater San Antonio - \$110,000

Statewide

Consumer Credit Counseling will use grant funds to cover the costs of Debt Management fees for one year for veterans that are in need of assistance regaining control of their finances. *Contact:* (210) 979-4300, (800) 410-2227

For more information about the Texas Veterans Commission Fund for Veterans' Assistance visit <http://www.tvc.state.tx.us/TVCFundforVeteransAssistance.html>.

-- ### --